

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A system for manipulation of a small object comprising

a carrier to transport the small object

a substrate to receive the small object and

a fluid droplet which couples the small object detachably to

at least one of the carrier and/or to and the substrate, wherein the
at least one of the carrier and the substrate is provided with at
least one electrode having a shape selected to influence an
orientation of the small object with respect to the at least one of
the carrier and the substrate.

2. (Currently amended) A The system for manipulation of a small object as claimed in claim 1 wherein a carrying fluid droplet is disposed on the carrier.

3. (Currently amended) A The system for manipulation of a small

object as claimed in claim 1, wherein a target fluid droplet is disposed in-on the substrate.

4. (Currently amended) A The system for manipulation of a small object as claimed in claim 1, wherein the target fluid droplet is placed on the substrate in predetermined positions or in a predetermined pattern.

5. (Currently amended) A The system for manipulation of a small object as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio of size of the fluid droplets to the size of the objects is in the range $1/10$ to $1/3$.

6. (Currently amended) A The system for manipulation of a small object as claimed in claim 1, wherein the substrate is provided with one or several electrodes.

7. (Currently amended) A The system for manipulation of small objects as claimed in claim 4 wherein the substrate electrodes have a shape which corresponds to a shape of the small objects.

8-11. (Canceled)

12. (New) The system for manipulation of a small object as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carrier and the substrate is provided with the fluid droplet and the at least one electrode.

13. (New) The system for manipulation of a small object as claimed in claim 12, wherein system is configured to a transfer the small object between the carrier and the substrate by activating the substrate electrode when the small object contacts the fluid droplet on the substrate and subsequently deactivating the carrier electrode.

14. (New) The system for manipulation of a small object as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises a first carrier portion and a second carrier portion joined by a flexible joint and wherein the system is configured to move the small object from the first carrier portion to the second carrier portion through the flexible joint.

15. (New) The system for manipulation of a small object as claimed

in claim 1, wherein the fluid droplet is one of a plurality of fluid droplets which couples a corresponding plurality of small objects detachably to the carrier, the system comprising a detector that is configured to distinguish fluid droplets carrying one of the plurality of small objects from fluid droplets that are not carrying one of the plurality of small objects.

16. (New) The system for manipulation of a small object as claimed in claim 15, comprising a drain line, wherein the system is configured for draining the fluid droplets into the drain line based on a signal from the detector.